

What we claim:

1. A method of providing enhanced directory assistance, said method comprising the steps of:

5 receiving a communication from an individual or group requesting access to a private directory contained in a database;

connecting the communication to a provider of directory assistance;

identifying from a plurality of access levels which level of access is associated with this individual or group;

10 determining whether the level of access associated with the individual is equal to or greater than the access requested by the individual or group;

performing an action by the directory assistance provider based upon the request for access to the private directory when the level of access associated with the individual is equal to or greater than the access requested by the individual or group.

15 2. The method as in claim 1, wherein a first level of access includes a right to view a particular private database.

20 3. The method as in claim 2, wherein a second level of access includes a right to edit a particular private database.

4. The method as in claim 3, wherein a third level of access includes a right to delete a particular private database.

25 5. The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of connecting to one or more communication links capable of receiving a communication from an individual or group originated from a wireless telephone.

30 6. The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of connecting to one or more communication links capable of receiving a communication from an individual or group originated from a landline telephone.

7. The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of connecting to one or more communication links capable of receiving a communication from an individual or group originated as voice over IP.

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8. The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of connecting to one or more communication links capable of receiving a communication from an individual or group originated as an input to a website.

10 9. The method of claim 1 wherein said private directory contains a contact information associated with a corporation.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein said performing step further comprises the step of locating directory details of at least one desired party in said private directory.

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11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of placing a call to said desired party.

12. A method of providing enhanced directory assistance, the method comprising the steps of:

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receiving a communication from an individual or group requesting access to contact information in a private directory contained in a database, the individual or group having a level of access to the private directory selected from a plurality of access levels;

connecting the communication to a provider of directory assistance;

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providing to the directory assistance provider at least the level of access to the private directory possessed by the individual or group;

performing an action by the directory assistance provider based upon the request for access to the private directory.

30 13. The method as in claim 12, wherein the performing step includes connecting an individual to a contact identified in the private database.

14. The method as in claim 13, wherein the directory assistance provide connected the individual to the contact without providing details of the contact contained in the private directory.

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15. A method of providing directory assistance, said method comprising the steps of:
receiving a communication from an individual or group;
connecting the individual or group to a provider of directory assistance;
establishing the individual's or group's access rights to at least one private directory in
10 a computer database, wherein said access rights are set by an administrator of said private directory;

obtaining at least one request from said individual or group;
performing an action based on said request and said access rights.

15 16. A method as in claim 15, further comprising the step of administering the directory.

17. A method as in claim 16, wherein the administering step includes the step of adding information to the private directory.

20 18. A method as in claim 16, wherein the administering step includes the step of editing the private directory.

19. A method as in claim 16, wherein the administering step includes the step of deleting information from the private directory.

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20. A method as in claim 16, wherein the administering step includes the step of uploading directory data to the private directory.

21. A method as in claim 20, wherein directory data is uploaded via the internet.

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